



## *An Update on New Jersey's*

# Community Forestry Act

*New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry's State Forest Service, Summer/Fall 2001*

## *NJ Shade Tree Federation to Meet in Cherry Hill*

NEW BRUNSWICK - William Porter, the Executive Director of the NJ Shade Tree Federation, has released the details of the upcoming **76th Annual Meeting of the NJ Shade Tree Federation** on October 19-21, 2001 in Cherry Hill at the newly renamed Clarion Hotel (formerly Four Points Sheraton) on Route 70 near I-295. Timely educational segments coupled with networking opportunities and this year's focus on solutions to the ubiquitous conflicts between **trees and sidewalks** (not to mention over 30 vendor booths, Casino Night, and the Awards Banquet) once again, promise to make this a very special event. Registration deadline is October 12th and you cannot register by phone.

This year there will be **two complete CORE trainings** offered, one on Friday and one on Saturday. CORE sessions feature John Anlian, a Fairview attorney and Ridgefield Park shade tree commissioner, and Peter Fengler, the manager of Asplundh's Municipal Division, who will explain some of the legal issues involved with community forestry and hazardous tree situations.

### Special Features

- **NJ Shade Tree Federation Meeting & CORE Training**
- **Mighty oak goes national**
- **CONNECTIV & Tree Line USA**
- **Searching for sick oak trees**
- **Who is the Forestry Council**
- **UFORE research surprises**
- **Memorial Tree Program in NJ**
- **Chisholm is the world champion**
- **FIREWISE communities**
- **Grant opportunities abound**
- **Today's acorn, tomorrow's tree**
- **Kuser's U&CF book at RU**

Pam Tappen, a NJ Certified Tree Expert and forester with the NJ Forest Service, will explain the Community Forestry Act. She is the Community Forestry Management Plan and Training Skills Accreditation Coordinator.

On Friday there will be several presentations dealing with tree-sidewalk issues. Dr. Nina Bassuk from Cornell will discuss soils and options for the coexistence of tree roots with load bearing sidewalks. Dr. E. Thomas Smiley from the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory in North Carolina will be speaking on tree root development under sidewalks and the use of tree root barriers. Dr. Bruce Hamilton of Rutgers University will then address proper tree species selection and its impact on preventing tree-sidewalk conflicts.

In the afternoon there will be a panel discussion featuring William Comery from the Borough of Paramus and John Linson of Millburn Township, with John Fontana, a sidewalk contractor, who will give us practical insight on sidewalk repair/replacement methods currently being used in nine Bergen County municipalities. Friday's General Session will conclude with ACRT's Kevin Heatley reporting on a GIS survey of Eatontown.

Friday evening's Casino Night will be your chance to win big without risking a cent. Everyone had fun last year and we are looking forward to this.

On Saturday Chris Carlson of Kent State will update us on urban cultural practices, and Drs. Ann Gould and James Lashomb of Cook College will cover bacterial leaf scorch's threat to our state's oaks. John Kegg will address Gypsy Moths, Asian Long-horned Beetles, and West Nile Virus. Mary Reynolds, Urban Forester for NH, will complete the program with the latest information on community tree planting. The Awards Banquet always provides a great evening of food and fun to wrap-up the activities. In short ... BE THERE!

### Quarterly Features

- **How to Reach Us**
- **Project Learning Tree in NJ**
- **Community Forestry & WWW**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **New Jersey by the Numbers**





## HOW TO REACH US

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forestry/community



# Project Learning Tree

# PLT

Here are just a few of the PLT workshops scheduled in NJ for the 2001-2002 school year. Workshops are free unless otherwise

indicated. For more workshop dates, call the NJ Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson at (732) 833-9816.

**Oct. TBA, Mar. 20, May 8** PLT with Greater Newark Conservancy. Explore the **urban environment** with PLT! 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Call Kelly Wenzel at (973) 642-4646 to register.

**Oct. 17** PLT for K-8 Educators: Fall Foliage & Tree ID, Washington Crossing State Park. Call the Park's Interpretive Center to register: (609) 737-0609.

**Nov. 1** PLT at Cheesequake State Park, Matawan, Monmouth County, 9 am to 3 pm. Call Jim Faczak at (732) 566-3208 to register. He can also be contacted by FAX at: (732) 566-0249 or by e-mail at: jfaczak@monmouth.com

## *The Mighty Oak Is America's Tree!*

Nebraska City, NE -- With a total of 444,628 votes cast, the oak captured 101,146 votes and proved to be the people's choice for America's National Tree, according to the National Arbor Day Foundation whose website, [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org), hosted the competition. The magnificent redwoods came in a strong second garnering over 80,800 votes. Dogwood, maple, and pine completed the top five favored trees.

Dr. Nina Bassuk of Cornell University in NY noted that the oak is "one of the few trees that grows in every state."

The northern red oak is the official NJ State Tree and is used frequently in parks and along roads throughout much of NJ.

Senator Ben Nelson of NE and Representative Bob Goodlatte of VA pledged to introduce legislation to congress making the oak America's official national tree. This announcement came during a Washington, DC, National Arbor Day Ceremony where a young oak was planted on the US Capitol grounds.

## *NADF honors Conectiv as a Tree Line USA utility*

Wilmington, DE -- Once again, the National Arbor Day Foundation has named Conectiv as the only recipient in New Jersey of the prestigious *Tree Line USA* certification according to the Wall Street Journal. Richard Johnstone accepted the award on behalf of Conectiv from John Rosenow, President of the NADF, at the Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska, during the Trees and Utilities Conference held there.

Howard Cosgrove, CEO of Conectiv, was recognized for his national leadership in caring for trees while meeting service objectives. Matt Simons, Conectiv's Atlantic Region Forester and a member of the New Jersey Community Forestry Council has played a key part in maintaining the energy utility's certification for this second consecutive year.

*Tree Line USA* requirements include training workers in quality tree-care practices and helping customers to plant appropriate trees near utility lines – not only for their esthetic value but also for long-term operational savings and fewer interruptions of service to their customers. During the presentation, Rosenow went on to cite the value of trees in making communities more livable, increasing property values, and helping to clean the air while conserving energy year-round.



# conectiv

# Community Forestry on the Internet



Send us your favorite urban and community forestry websites so that we can include them in the next newsletter. We will try to feature a few every quarter. Check-out these websites and bookmark the best ones!

[www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community)

[wcd.saultc.on.ca:8900/dendro/webpages/home.html](http://wcd.saultc.on.ca:8900/dendro/webpages/home.html)

[wcufre.ucdavis.edu/whatisurbanforestry.htm](http://wcufre.ucdavis.edu/whatisurbanforestry.htm)

[www.FIREWISE.org/community](http://www.FIREWISE.org/community)

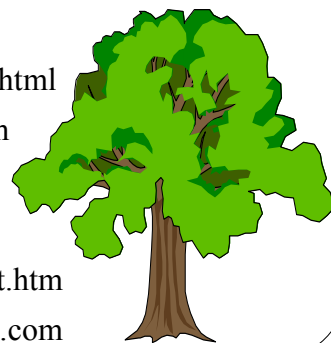
[www.treesaremyfriends.org](http://www.treesaremyfriends.org)

[www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org)

[www.njua.org/olddigit.htm](http://www.njua.org/olddigit.htm)

[www.communitytrees.org](http://www.communitytrees.org)

[www.treebuzz.com](http://www.treebuzz.com)



## *NJ Forest Service scours the state in search of sick oak trees*

TRENTON -- Dozens of volunteers, foresters, and tree care experts are spending time this September walking the streets of over 100 municipalities from High Point to Cape May. With clipboards in hand, their mission is to survey more than 10,000 of New Jersey's red oaks (our official State Tree), scarlet oaks, and pin oaks (one of the top five trees planted along NJ's streets) for the signs and symptoms of Bacterial Leaf Scorch (BLS) disease.

These ground crews are working with a helicopter aerial survey team to determine the extent of BLS that appears to be spreading rapidly northward from several southwestern NJ towns. Diseased oak trees are losing vigor, and branches or entire trees with severe leaf scorch eventually die.

The DEP's Community Forestry Program is coordinating this extensive survey effort with the USDA Forest Service, Rutgers University, the NJ Community Forestry Council, and the NJ Board of Certified Tree Experts. Funding provided by the *Oak Tree Disease* bill, Senate Bill 1368, originated in the offices of Senator Martha Bark and former Governor Whitman. The \$95,000 appropriation will cover the volunteers' training in early September at Rutgers University, the aerial and ground surveying, as well as expenses associated with testing of samples and preparation of the final report that will be submitted to the legislature.

"Bacterial Leaf Scorch in oak trees is caused by a bacteria that clogs the xylem (water transport vessels) of the tree; this blocks the water from reaching the leaves and causes them to turn brown." according to Pamela Tappen, the New Jersey Forest Service forester coordinating the survey. This causes the oak leaves to look scorched but remain on the tree through late summer until autumn.

Dr. James Lashomb, an entomologist at Rutgers, adds that the "disease is moved from a sick oak tree to a healthy oak tree by leafhoppers and spittlebugs that are commonly found from Georgia through southern New York."

Michael D'Errico, Supervising Forester of the DEP's Community Forestry Program, maintains that "this survey is so important because we need to know exactly how bad the problem is so that we can devise a strategic response to protect the resource." Roni Olizi, member of the New Jersey Community Forestry Council, adds that, "the loss of this resource to our cities and towns will not only change their character but will be a financial burden as thousands of trees will have to be removed."

A full-color fact sheet entitled **Bacterial Leaf Scorch Affects New Jersey State Tree** is available from the New Jersey Forest Service in Trenton or you can visit the Community Forestry Program website at [www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community/BLS.HTML](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community/BLS.HTML) for more information and photos.



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

September 1 to October 30    FREC

Today's Acorns = Tomorrow's Trees

**Sept. 29    NJTF in Hackensack, NJ**  
**Habitat for Trees planting with**  
**Bergen County Habitat for Humanity**

September 30 -- October 3  
ISA Mid-Atlantic Annual Conference  
Ramada Inn, Hagerstown, Maryland

**October 5 -- 19**

**CAA Arboriculture II - Advanced**

**Oct. 6    Fall Forestry & 4-H Festival at**  
**NJ Forest Resource Ed. Center in**  
**Jackson on Rte. 527, 10 AM to 3 PM**

**October 11                    Council Meeting**

**October 13    NJTF in Berverly City, NJ**  
**Habitat for Trees planting with**  
**Beverly City Habitat for Humanity**

**October 13    Harvest Festival at the**  
**Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit**

**Oct 19 - 20    NJ Shade Tree Federation**  
**Annual Meeting & CORE, Cherry Hill**

**October 27    Make A Difference Day**  
**65 volunteer groups will plant 6,000+**  
**trees with the NJTF statewide**

**October 27                    NJTF in Newark, NJ**  
**Habitat for Trees planting with**  
**Newark Habitat for Humanity**

**October 27    ANJEC in Newark, NJ**  
**Taming Growth to Save New Jersey**  
**2001 Environmental Congress**

**October 29                    Application Deadline**  
**Green Communities Challenge Grant**

**November 8                    Council Meeting**

November 13 -- 16  
NJ League of Municipalities Meeting

**Nov. 16    Grant Application Deadline**  
**Community Stewardship Incentive**

**December 13                    Council Meeting**

**December 14    Application Deadline**

# ***What or who is the NJ Community Forestry Council that we read about?***

When the *NJ Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act* was passed in 1996, it included C.13:1L-17.5 which established the Community Forestry Council and defines its membership and powers. The 20 members of the Council are all volunteers appointed by the State Forester. They must be "citizens with expertise or interest in trees, forestry, or tree or forest management, maintenance or care" and each serves for a term of three years.

The Mission Statement simply states that they will "encourage and assist NJ communities to establish and successfully implement a tree management program by providing them information, financial incentives and educational resources needed to sustain and enhance their forests."

The Council meets in Freehold on the second Thursday morning of the month where an extensive agenda of issues are addressed. Topics range from status reports on recently submitted Management Plans and correspondences and fatalities in the industry to grant allocations and legislation for the tree license plates and almost everything else in between. Usually, a few members of the public and several NJ Forest Service foresters including Michael D'Errico who is not only the Supervising Forester for the Community Forestry Program but also the Executive Secretary of the Council and James Barresi, the State Forester, participate at these open public meetings. Council members include representatives from local governments, the private sector, professional associations, higher education, and the utilities. Some of the discussions can be quite lively, as you might expect, with such a diverse mix of people, all of whom are passionate when it comes to urban and community forestry.

The formidable task of directing these meetings falls into the very capable hands of David Shaw, the Council's Chairman. Mr. Shaw is also the Chairman of the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission and has been working with trees since serving in the US Navy during WWII. Steve Chisolm, of Aspen Tree Experts and the Board of Certified Tree Experts, donates valuable time away from his family's tree business in Jackson to serve as the Vice Chairman with Mauro Checchio of Union County Policy and Planning in Elizabeth serving as the Council's Legislative Liaison.



# NJ

## By the numbers...



- 1 Tree Line USA utility in NJ... Congratulations to Conectiv
- 7 NJ's rank in the USA for our number of Tree Cities... 115
- 62 Approved Municipal Community Forestry Management Plans
- 88 Community Forestry Management Plans have been submitted
- 105 Towns surveyed for Bacterial Leaf Scorch in our oak trees
- 566 Municipalities in New Jersey's 21 counties
- 3,000+ *Make a Difference with Trees* volunteers in 65 groups who will plant over 6,000 trees
- 1.045 Million dollars available for 2002 Community Forestry Grants
- 266 Certified Tree Experts in the State of New Jersey as of September 24th
- 250 Towns Participating in the NJ Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act

## *Early UFORE surprises show, "Money does grow on trees!"*

The NJ Forest Service in cooperation with David Nowak and Daniel Crane of the USDA Forest Service, have released the preliminary results of an investigation completed in four NJ towns chosen to represent the spectrum of population densities found across our state. The project, called UFORE or **Urban Forest Research**, consists of five related parts ultimately dealing with urban trees and quantifying their impacts on air quality related issues through computer modeling. By applying algorithms, this data can then supply dollar values to help answer questions on topics that range from heating and cooling costs to the air pollen and ozone indexes and carbon sequestration with its impact on global climate change. The first surprise is just how big these numbers are! Impacts are often estimated in tons and the dollar values can be into the millions.

> Moorestown's total tree cover of 91.2% has an estimated value of \$559.0 million. The net annual carbon sequestered is 2,830 tons and an estimated 121.4 tons of pollution are removed from Moorestown's air every year.

> Freehold's total tree cover is 34.4% with an estimated value of \$68.2 million. The net annual carbon sequestered is 349 tons and an estimated 19.8 tons of air pollution are removed from Freehold's air every year.

> Woodbridge's total tree cover is 29.5% with an estimated value of \$765.8 million. The net annual carbon sequestered is 4,051 tons and an estimated 217.7 tons of pollution are removed from Woodbridge's air every year.

> Jersey City's total tree cover is 11.5% with an estimated value of \$100.9 million. The net annual carbon sequestered is 640 tons and an estimated 46.0 tons of pollution are removed from Jersey City's air every year.

This extensive data also includes values for what are known as biogenic materials. Pollen and volatile organic compounds

that are released from many trees in our urban forest also affect our air. Similar research is ongoing across the US.



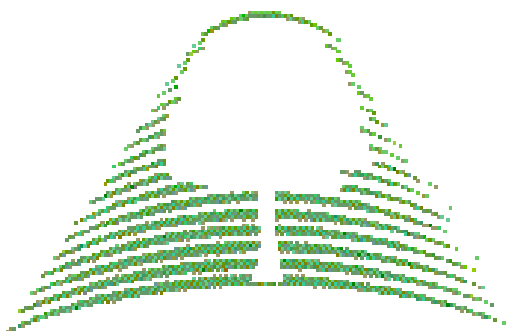
**The New Jersey Community Forestry Council at work during a recent monthly meeting in Freehold.**

# ***The New Jersey Memorial Tree Program offers a way to remember***

Trenton, NJ -- In the wake of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the Division of Parks and Forestry has received several inquiries concerning planting trees as a memorial. The New Jersey Memorial Tree Program offers a simple way to continue the spirit and legacy of those lives that were lost. This fifteen-month old program is sponsored through a partnership between the Division of Parks and Forestry, the New Jersey State Funeral Director's Association ([www.njsfda.org](http://www.njsfda.org)), and the New Jersey Tree Foundation (609-984-3856 or [njtf1@juno.com](mailto:njtf1@juno.com)).

Planting a memorial tree honors the departed while benefiting the community through cooling shade, air and noise pollution mitigation, and natural beauty. A one-time contribution provides a mature shade tree to a community of the donor's choice, or a state park or forest. The contribution provides for the purchase, transportation, planting, and continued care of the shade tree. An acknowledgment card, reflecting the donation in memory of their loved one, is sent to the donor or to a requested third party.

## **THE NEW JERSEY MEMORIAL TREE PROGRAM**



[www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community/memorialtree.html](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/forestry/community/memorialtree.html)

## ***Chisholm takes world championship title***

Milwaukee, WI -- Mark Chisholm, the International Society of Arboriculture NJ Chapter Tree Climbing Champion for 9 years, has just won the 2001 ISA World Tree Climbing Championship for the 2nd time, inching out defending champion Bernd Strasse of Germany. Overall, Mark beat 36 competitors from more than a dozen countries in 6 events, breaking his own ISA world record in a vertical 40-foot footlock rope ascension with an incredible 11.37 seconds.

When asked at the NJ competition to explain his success, Mark Chisholm credits Steve, his father and the Vice Chairman of the Community Forestry Council, "I've been fortunate to be taught by the best and I keep learning. I think that's the key."

"I do diet, weight training, the whole nine yards," Mark would add later. "To be one of the best you have to treat it like an athletic event. Train for it."

Mark's new website, [treebuzz.com](http://treebuzz.com), will focus on tree climbing safety and training along with what's new in the lofty realm of gear for arborists.

America's FIREWISE partners are gathering again to create the next generation of FIREWISE Communities.

Community leaders and professionals will be handpicked to become part of a FIREWISE project for the new millennium: the FIREWISE Communities Workshop series. Participants will be guided through state-of-the-art simulation and mapping exercises by dynamic presenters to learn-first hand the complexities involved in creating communities and citizenries that are prepared for the inevitable effects of wildfire. Participants will learn how to:

- recognize interface fire hazards
- design FIREWISE homes and landscapes
- deliver fire education
- and incorporate FIREWISE planning into existing and developing areas of communities



[www.firewise.org/communities](http://www.firewise.org/communities)

**working to make homes  
safer from wildfire**

**Visit our web site for more information  
on workshop locations and dates**

# 2002 Community Forestry Grants

Is your community or municipality struggling with a minuscule budget for tree planting and care? The Community Forestry Program, within the Division of Parks and Forestry, has three grant programs funded by a state allocation of \$1,045,000. *One of these programs is right for your town!*

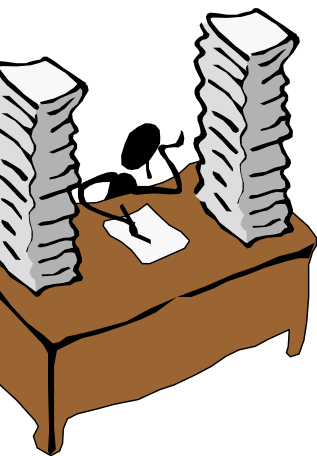
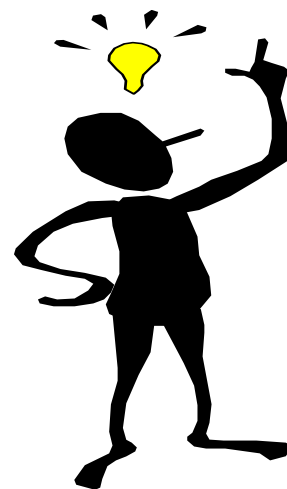
## **Green Communities Challenge Grant -- Application Deadline: Oct. 29, 2001**

**Maximum Grant: \$2,000 -- Funding: \$60,000+ from US Forest Service**

This grant is intended to provide funds for a county or municipality to hire an outside firm to assist in the production of a Community Forestry Management Plan.

Applicants are awarded through a lottery system and are then ranked and placed on a list. Funding is awarded when it becomes available and this continues until all applicants have been funded.

The only eligibility requirements are a completed application and intent to oversee the completion of the management plan. Also, a matching amount of \$1,000 is necessary, either cash or in-kind services. In-kind services of volunteers is budgeted at \$15.39 per hour.



## **Community Stewardship Incentive Program Grant -- Application Deadline: Nov. 16, 2001**

**Maximum Grant Amount: \$9,000 -- Total Funding Available in 2002: \$650,000**

The CSIP grant allows municipalities to implement their approved Community Forestry Management Plan. (Please see the Green Communities Challenge Grant description above.) This grant is a cost-share grant that is evaluated by the Community Forestry Council. Only municipalities and counties with an approved management plan and two CORE trained individuals are eligible. (Please note: Applicants for the 2002 CSIP grant are not eligible for the 2002 New Jersey Tree Planting grant.)

The cost-share ratio is 75% grant to 25% match of cash or in-kind services. Seventy percent of the grant is given in advance of the project, and the remaining thirty percent is a reimbursement upon the project's completion. The proposal should include a project narrative and budget, along with any relevant appendices. The work period for this grant is one year.

## **New Jersey Tree Planting Grant -- Application Deadline: December 14, 2001**

**Maximum Grant: \$7,500 -- Total Funds Available in 2002: \$335,000**

This grant is open to any municipality, county, or non-profit organization that is not applying for a CSIP grant. The trees may be planted on any municipally owned land (right-of-way, parks, schools, *et cetera*). It is a competitive, cost-sharing grant that will be evaluated and ranked by the New Jersey Community Forestry Council.

The cost-share ratio is 75% grant to 25% match of cash or in-kind services. Seventy percent of the grant is given in advance of the project and the remaining thirty percent is a reimbursement upon completion of the project. The project's proposal must include a narrative and budget for the project, a comprehensive planting plan, and relevant appendices.



**If you would like an application, contact: Community Forestry Program (609) 292-2532**



# ***Help make today's acorns into tomorrow's trees!***

It's that time of year again! The Forest Resource Education Center (FREC) and New Jersey Forest Service Tree Nursery are working to coordinate the collection of 1,000's of acorns from red oak, pin oak, white oak, and chestnut oak trees across the state and you can help! This collection has started and will continue until October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Acorns from all oak species may be collected in any open, clean, and dry one-gallon plastic milk jug.

Please store the acorns in the milk jugs (keep the cap off) in a cool and dry place and then take them to the nearest drop-off site ASAP. Or, bring them to the Fall Forestry and 4-H Festival at the FREC in Jackson (Ocean County) on October 6, 2001 from 10 to 3 and stay to enjoy a great day.

These acorns will be grown for one year and then the seedlings will be planted statewide. Thousands will be distributed for Arbor Day. Call the Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson at 732-928-0029 Monday through Friday for answers to your questions about important forestry issues and to find the closest Acorn Drop-off Point in your county.



# ***Kuser's UCF Handbook earns a five star rating!***

The *Handbook of Urban & Community Forestry in the Northeast* encompasses all aspects of urban forestry and is edited by Dr. John E. Kuser, the legendary professor of forestry at Cook College, Rutgers University. More than 25 chapters cover topics ranging from legal, financial, and managerial matters to the fundamentals of planting, maintaining, and recycling trees in cities and towns in the Northeast and Middle-Atlantic regions. There is currently no other book that treats our region so comprehensively. The 444-page, fully indexed book will be a valuable resource for those working in forestry, conservation, urban planning, and landscape architecture for years to come.

"Finally, reliable urban forestry information for the NE." according to Maryland arborist Dr. V. D. Lerch from New Carrollton. "This is an excellent review of Urban Forestry practices in general and certainly the premier book for UF in the northeast! Topics are up-to-date and efficiently covered. Contributing editors are some of the top people in the field... excellent examples, visuals, and references. A must have for anyone concerned about trees in the urban environment."

While this volume lists for \$185 and that is what Amazon charges (with 5 stars), insiders know that you can get your own hardcover copy for half that at \$95 from the Cook-Douglass Cooperative Bookstore in New Brunswick (732-246-0110).

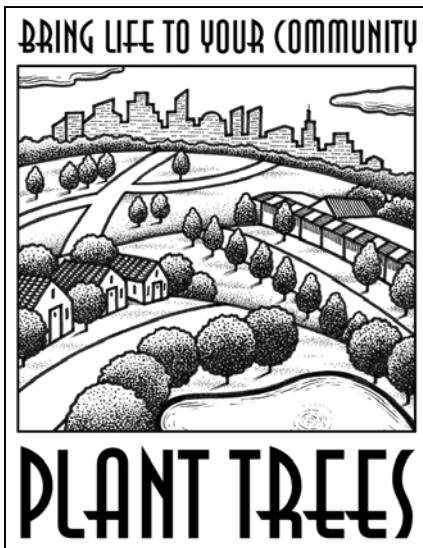
## **New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection**

### **Division of Parks and Forestry**

#### **Forest Service -- Community Forestry Program**

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**Trenton, NJ 08625-0404**



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**